implemented in a computer cluster or datacenter server may omit blocks **411**, **413**, and **415**, proceeding from block **409** to block **417**.

[0047] The embodiments described herein may include various operations. These operations may be performed by hardware components, software, firmware, or a combination thereof. As used herein, the term "coupled to" may mean coupled directly or indirectly through one or more intervening components. Any of the signals provided over various buses described herein may be time multiplexed with other signals and provided over one or more common buses. Additionally, the interconnection between circuit components or blocks may be shown as buses or as single signal lines. Each of the buses may alternatively be one or more single signal lines and each of the single signal lines may alternatively be buses.

[0048] Certain embodiments may be implemented as a computer program product that may include instructions stored on a non-transitory computer-readable medium. These instructions may be used to program a general-purpose or special-purpose processor to perform the described operations. A computer-readable medium includes any mechanism for storing or transmitting information in a form (e.g., software, processing application) readable by a machine (e.g., a computer). The non-transitory computer-readable storage medium may include, but is not limited to, magnetic storage medium (e.g., floppy diskette); optical storage medium (e.g., CD-ROM); magneto-optical storage medium; read-only memory (ROM); random-access memory (RAM); erasable programmable memory (e.g., EPROM and EEPROM); flash memory, or another type of medium suitable for storing electronic instructions.

[0049] Additionally, some embodiments may be practiced in distributed computing environments where the computer-readable medium is stored on and/or executed by more than one computer system. In addition, the information transferred between computer systems may either be pulled or pushed across the transmission medium connecting the computer systems.

[0050] Generally, a data structure representing the computing system **100** and/or portions thereof carried on the computer-readable storage medium may be a database or other data structure which can be read by a program and used, directly or indirectly, to fabricate the hardware comprising the computing system **100**. For example, the data structure may be a behavioral-level description or register-transfer level (RTL) description of the hardware functionality in a high level design language (HDL) such as Verilog or VHDL. The description may be read by a synthesis tool which may synthesize the description to produce a netlist comprising a list of gates from a synthesis library. The netlist comprises a set of gates which also represent the functionality of the hardware comprising the computing system **100**. The netlist may then be placed and routed to produce a data set describing geometric shapes to be applied to masks. The masks may then be used in various semiconductor fabrication steps to produce a semiconductor circuit or circuits corresponding to the computing system **100**. Alternatively, the database on the computer-readable storage medium may be the netlist (with or without the synthesis library) or the data set, as desired, or Graphic Data System (GDS) II data.

[0051] Although the operations of the method(s) herein are shown and described in a particular order, the order of the operations of each method may be altered so that certain operations may be performed in an inverse order or so that certain operation may be performed, at least in part, concurrently with other operations. In another embodiment, instructions or sub-operations of distinct operations may be in an intermittent and/or alternating manner.

[0052] In the foregoing specification, the embodiments have been described with reference to specific exemplary embodiments thereof. It will, however, be evident that various modifications and changes may be made thereto without departing from the broader spirit and scope of the embodiments as set forth in the appended claims. The specification and drawings are, accordingly, to be regarded in an illustrative sense rather than a restrictive sense.

What is claimed is:

1. A method, comprising

storing one or more parameters, wherein each of the one or more parameters represents an electrical operating characteristic of a processing unit that controls power consumption of the processing unit;

receiving a first user input requesting execution of a task by the processing unit;

in response to receiving a second user input, modifying at least one of the one or more parameters; and

executing the task in the processing unit while operating the processing unit according to the at least one modified parameter.

2. The method of claim **1**, further comprising, in response to receiving the first user input, executing the task in the processing unit prior to receiving the second user input while operating the processing unit according to the one or more parameters.

3. The method of claim **1**, further comprising providing a list of power consumption costs to a user, wherein the second user input indicates a power consumption cost selected from the list of power consumption costs.

4. The method of claim **1**, wherein executing the task while operating the processing unit according to the at least one modified parameter increases the power consumption of the processing unit.

5. The method of claim **1**, wherein the one or more parameters further comprises a voltage level parameter indicating a voltage level supplied to the processing unit and a frequency level parameter indicating a frequency of a clock signal supplied to the processing unit.

6. The method of claim **1**, wherein the second user input comprises minimizing a task window displaying information generated by the task.

7. The method of claim **1**, wherein the second user input comprises a tilt signal indicating that a tilt angle of a display unit coupled with the processing unit exceeds a threshold tilt angle.

8. An apparatus, comprising:

a processing unit;

a database coupled with the processing unit and configured to store one or more parameters, wherein each of the one or more parameters represents an electrical operating characteristic of the processing unit and controls power consumption of the processing unit; and

a runtime system configured to:

in response to receiving a first user input, execute the task in the processing unit, and

in response to receiving a second user input, modify at least one of the one or more parameters for the execution of the task in the processing unit.